

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Agenda Item Summary Sheet**

Name: Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Date: March 18, 2015

Title: Spotlight: Emerging Partnerships between Universities in Mexico and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Purpose (check one):

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed
New Policy or
Amendment to
Existing Policy | <input type="checkbox"/> Approvals
Required by
Policy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Approvals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring /
Compliance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information | |

Brief Description:

Following the announcement of the U.S.–Mexico Bilateral Forum on Higher Education, Innovation and Research by President Barack Obama and President Enrique Peña Nieto, recently eleven Minnesota State Colleges and Universities hosted a delegation of leaders representing six universities in Mexico. The visit focused on Mexico’s *Proyecta 100,000* program, which aims to send 100,000 Mexican students to the U.S. and to receive 50,000 U.S. students in Mexico by 2018.

Hennepin Technical College President Cecilia Cervantes, St. Cloud State University President Earl Potter, and Hennepin Technical College Dean of Business Therese Salber will report on the visit. Consul Alberto Fierro Garza of the Consul of Mexico will address the board as well.

Scheduled Presenters:

- President Cecilia Cervantes, Hennepin Technical College (presenter)
- Therese Salber, Hennepin Technical College Dean of Business (presenter)
- President Earl H. Potter, St. Cloud State University (presenter)
- Consul Alberto Fierro Garza, Consul of Mexico (presenter)

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

INFORMATION ITEM

**SPOTLIGHT: EMERGING PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN
UNIVERSITIES IN MEXICO AND
MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

BACKGROUND

At each board meeting, the board pauses to spotlight students or the work of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities on behalf of students. This month's presentation will spotlight emerging partnerships to promote international exchange between Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and universities in Mexico.

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Mexican universities represented in the visiting delegation

- Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo
- Universidad Intercultural Maya de Quintana Roo
- Universidad La Salle Noroeste, Cd. Obregón Sonora
- Universidad Politécnica de Santa Rosa Jáuregui
- Universidad Tecnológica de Cancún
- Universidad Veracruzana

Hosting colleges and universities

- Metropolitan State University
- Minnesota State University, Mankato
- St. Cloud State University
- Winona State University
- Dakota County Technical College
- Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College

- Hennepin Technical College
- Normandale Community College
- Saint Paul College
- St. Cloud Technical and Community College
- South Central College

Background on the U.S. –Mexico Bilateral Forum on Higher Education, Innovation and Research (FOBESII)

In May 2013, President Barack Obama and President Enrique Peña Nieto announced the U.S.–Mexico Bilateral Forum on Higher Education, Innovation and Research to expand opportunities for educational exchanges, scientific research partnerships, and cross-border innovation. The goal was to help both countries develop a 21st century workforce for our mutual economic prosperity and sustainable social development. The official launching of FOBESII took place on May 21, 2014, during the visit of U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry to Mexico City.

FOBESII builds on longstanding cooperation among our governments, the private sector and academic institutions, it complements President Obama’s 100,000 Strong in the Americas initiative, which seeks to increase student mobility between the United States and the countries of the Western Hemisphere, including Mexico. It is also consistent with Mexico’s Proyecta 100,000 program that aims to send 100,000 Mexican students to the U.S. and to receive 50,000 U.S. students in Mexico by 2018.

Through FOBESII, the U.S. and Mexico bring together government, the higher education community, the private sector, and civil society to promote workforce development, educational and research cooperation and encourage broader access to quality post-secondary education especially for traditionally underserved demographic groups, including women, and in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. They also aim to expand student, scholar, and teacher exchanges, promote language acquisition, increase joint research, promote workforce development and share best practices between the two countries.